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## FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

### Questions and Answers on the subject of Banking.

What is a bank charter?

It is a law prescribing the amount of bank capital, and otherwise fixing the general principles upon which the bank shall be conducted.

Does a charter make a bank more solvent?

Does it enable the institution to pay specie with more certainty and promptness?

Not at all. It makes a bank less solvent; for it limits the capital to the stock subscribed and paid in, and prevents the creditors of the bank from touching the property of the stockholders or directors should the bank itself be unable to redeem its notes.

Why, then, do men confide more in a chartered, than in an unchartered, bank?

Because the charter, which is a law of the government, throws a charm over the institution. It operates on the imagination, and begets the idea of safety.

But does a charter add nothing to the capacity of a bank to pay its debts?

Nothing. If any thing, it lessens the capacity.

What is the principal use of an act of incorporation—in other words, a charter?

To give the bank a legal personality; To enable it to sue and be sued.

How does this personality, thus acquired by a charter, operate?

Almost wholly in favor of the bank. It can, by this means, bring suit against its debtors, and coerce them to payment, with facility: And this it generally does without forbearance or mercy. Whereas, let the bank be ever so faulty; let it refuse to pay specie for its notes, act corruptly, or cheat the public, no individual will proceed against it. Individuals are afraid, in most instances, to offend the bank. If they are borrowers, they are in its power, and dare not speak: And if they are

not borrowers, they have uncles, aunts, cousins, friends, acquaintances, who are stockholders, or borrowers, or who hold offices in the bank; and they do not like to disturb the interests of these.

From what you say am I to conclude that a chartered bank may play the tyrant?

Yes; almost with impunity. There are banks which, with not more than 700 dollars in specie on hand, have in circulation nearly 100,000 dollars in notes. Persons who hold these notes, do not wish the credit of the bank to be shaken, and they will not encourage any investigation of the subject. The bank thus tyrannizes over the industry of the people, by issuing a false money, which eventually depreciates. The tyranny operates through fear, arising from self-interest. In a despotic government, men submit to the arbitrary acts of the despot for fear of losing their lives; in banking, they submit to the fraudulent acts of the institution for fear of losing their money.

Is there no way of correcting such evils?

They are very difficult of correction. The banks are so numerous that every corner of the country is filled with their notes. These notes, which pass for money, are so engrafted into the business of life, that it is almost impossible to get rid of them. The community, in fact, is governed by the banks. The banking, or paper system, is, in truth, one of the three grand methods which have been invented for enslaving mankind.

Will you explain this to me?

I will. In the ignorant and superstitious ages of the world, men were cheated and governed by priestcraft. As knowledge extended, the system of priestcraft was overturned, and a rational religion founded upon its ruins. The next invention was a standing army, which is a substitution of force for cunning. In free countries, such as the United States, standing armies are kept in but very small numbers. As, therefore, among a free and intelligent people, neither priestcraft nor a standing army can prevail, recourse has been had to a new scheme, namely: the banking, or paper, system. By this system the people are as effectually cheated as they formerly were by priestcraft. Their pockets are picked by bank-jobbers, who do not work, and are unproductive. The loss falls upon the laboring class. At this very time there exist in the world striking examples of all these three methods of governing men. In Spain, priestcraft still prevails to the great impoverishment of the people. In France, in Germany, in Russia, standing armies exist, without which

the sovereigns of those countries could not maintain their authority. In Great Britain the paper system predominates in all its force, and it has reduced a great portion of her population to beggary. From Great Britain we have borrowed it, and carried it to excess.

And would you pull the whole fabric of the banking, or paper, system to pieces?

By no means. I would regulate it, as priestcraft and standing armies have been regulated among us. For the frauds of the priesthood a rational religion has been substituted; standing armies, (at least in the United States) are kept within reasonable bounds; and the banking, or paper, system, should be restrained so as to be really and only useful to society.

How would you restrain it?

In answer to this question, allow me to remark, that there are at present in the United States two banking systems, opposed and actually hostile to each other. The one emanates from the states individually, the other from the United States. This, of itself, will prevent the establishment of an uniform currency. No change of Directors or officers of the Bank of the United States will obviate the difficulty. It matters not whether Mr. Jones, or Mr. Fisher, or Mr. Cheves, is the President. The source of the evil lies not so much in the men, as in the two systems. These two systems must be reduced to one. The manner of doing this will be easy, if the state legislatures and Congress go heartily to work upon it. To effect the object, let laws be passed in the several states and by Congress, irrevocable without the consent of two-thirds of the states, for opening subscriptions for stock to establish one bank of the United States and a certain number of state banks in each state, and give the liberty of subscribing to this stock to all existing banks, as far as their real capital will extend. Thus the interests of all the solvent banks now existing will be preserved. Abolish all banks, except those newly subscribed for, and compel them to settle up their concerns as speedily as possible. Let the new bank of the United States and the new state banks manage their own concerns, respectively, independently of each other, with one exception, which is, that the notes of any and all of them shall be reciprocally receivable by all of them. An uniform currency will thus be established, and the demand for specie will not be so great as at present. There will be no clashing. Exchange brokers will die off, and bank notes will maintain a specie value. If we look at the matter closely, it will be found that all the prevalent confusion in our currency, arises from an oversight in the framers of the constitution of the United States. Those framers seem to have thought that they

had sufficiently provided for a national currency, when they prohibited the states from making any thing but gold and silver a legal tender. But the states have completely evaded this prohibition, by the expedient of banking. Whilst we are, therefore, confederated for almost every other purpose, we are still separate states as it regards the important article of money. Why should we not be united on that point too? Before the formation of the present constitution, Great Britain, it is well known, refused to form a commercial treaty with us; and one reason, among others, for refusing, was, that we had no national government adequate to enforce commercial treaty stipulations. Now, it is obvious, that, with regard to the trading world in general, we stand in exactly the same predicament that we did with Great Britain touching a commercial treaty: We have no stable, uniform currency. Foreigners who deal with us will look to this; and they will be shy of trafficking with a people whose circulating medium varies from day to day, and even from hour to hour.

#### *Convention between the United States and Great Britain.*

By the President of the United States of America,  
A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas a Convention between the United States of America and His Majesty the king of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, was made and concluded at London, on the twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, by Albert Gallatin, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to the court of France, and Richard Rush, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of His Britannic Majesty; and the Right Honorable Frederick John Robinson, Treasurer of His Majesty's Navy, and President of the committee of Privy Council for Trade and Plantations, and Henry Goulburn, Esq. one of His Majesty's Under Secretaries of State; fully authorized and empowered by their respective governments: And whereas the said Convention was duly ratified by His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Britannic Majesty, on the second day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen; and by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, on the twenty-eighth day of January following: And whereas the ratifications of the two governments were exchanged, in the city of Washington, on the thirtieth day of the present month of January, by John Quincy Adams, Secretary of State of the United States, on the part of the United States, and the Right Honorable Charles Bagot, His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary near the United States, on the part of His Britannic Majesty; the Articles of which Convention are, word for word, as follows:

The United States of America, and his majesty the king of the United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Ireland, desirous to cement the good understanding which happily subsists between them, have, for that purpose, named their respective Plenipotentiaries, that is to say: The President of the United States, on his part, has appointed Albert Gallatin, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of France; and Richard Rush, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of his Britannic Majesty: And his Majesty has appointed the right honorable Frederick John Robinson, Treasurer of his Majesty's navy, and President of the committee of privy council for trade and Plantations, and Henry Goulbourn, Esq. one of his Majesty's under Secretaries of State: Who, after having exchanged their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following articles:

## ARTICLE I.

Whereas differences have arisen respecting the liberty claimed by the United States, for the inhabitants thereof, to take, dry, and cure, fish, on certain coasts, bays, harbors, and creeks, of his Britannic Majesty's Dominions in America, it is agreed between the high contracting parties, that the inhabitants of the said United States shall have, forever, in common with the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, the liberty to take fish of every kind, on that part of the southern coast of Newfoundland, which extends from Cape Ray to the Rameau Islands, on the western and northern coast of Newfoundland, from the said Cape Ray to the Quirpon Islands, on the shores of the Magdalen islands, and also on the coasts, bays, harbors, and creeks, from Mount Joly, on the southern coast of Labrador, to and through the straits of Bellisle, and thence northwardly indefinitely along the coast; without prejudice, however, to any of the exclusive rights of the Hudson Bay Company:—And that the American fishermen shall also have liberty, forever, to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbors, and creeks, of the southern part of the coast of Newfoundland, hereabove described, and of the coast of Labrador; but so soon as the same, or any portion thereof, shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such portion so settled, without previous agreement for such purpose, with the inhabitants, proprietors, or possessors, of the ground. And the United States hereby renounce, forever, any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof, to take, dry, or cure, fish on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbors, of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America, not included within the above mentioned limits: Provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbors, for the purpose of shelter and of repairing damages therein, of purchasing wood, and of obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent their taking, drying, or curing, fish therein, or in any other manner whatever abusing the privileges hereby reserved to them.

## ARTICLE II.

It is agreed, that a line drawn from the most northwestern point of the Lake of the Woods, along the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, or if the said point shall not be in the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, then that a line drawn

from the said point due north or south, as the case may be, until the said line shall intersect the said parallel of north latitude, and from the point of such intersection due west along and with the said parallel, shall be the line of demarcation between the territories of the U. States and those of his Britannic Majesty, and that the said line shall form the northern boundary of the said territories of the United States, and the southern boundary of the territories of his Britannic Majesty, from the Lake of the Woods to the Stony Mountains.

## ARTICLE III.

It is agreed, that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains, shall, together with its harbors, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open, for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of the present convention, to the vessels, citizens, and subjects, of the two powers; it being well understood, that this agreement is not to be construed to the prejudice of any claim which either of the two high contracting parties may have to any part of the said country, nor shall it be taken to affect the claims of any other power or state to any part of the said country; the only object of the high contracting parties, in that respect, being to prevent disputes and differences amongst themselves.

## ARTICLE IV.

All the provisions of the Convention "to regulate the commerce between the territories of the United States and of His Britannic Majesty," concluded at London, on the third day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, with the exception of the clause which limited its duration to four years, and excepting, also, so far as the same was affected by the declaration of His Majesty respecting the Island of St. Helena, are hereby extended and continued in force for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of the present Convention, in the same manner as if all the provisions of the said Convention were herein specially recited.

## ARTICLE V.

Whereas it was agreed by the first article of the treaty of Ghent, that "All territory, places, and possessions, whatsoever, taken by either party from the other, during the war, or which may be taken after the signing of this treaty, excepting only the Islands hereinafter mentioned, shall be restored without delay, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any of the artillery or other public property originally captured in the said forts or places, which shall remain therein upon the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, or any slaves, or other private property;" and whereas, under the aforesaid article, the United States claim for their citizens, and as their private property, the restitution of, or full compensation for, all slaves who, at the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the said treaty, were in any territory, places, or possessions, whatsoever, directed by the said treaty to be restored to the United States, but then still occupied by the British forces, whether such slaves were, at the date aforesaid, on shore, or on board any British vessel, lying within waters within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States; and whereas differences have arisen, whe-



ther, by the true intent or meaning of the aforesaid article of the treaty of Ghent, the United States are entitled to the restoration of, or full compensation for, all or any slaves, as above described, the high contracting parties hereby agree to refer the said differences to some friendly sovereign or state, to be named for that purpose; and the high contracting parties further engage to consider the decision of such friendly sovereign or state to be final and conclusive on all the matters referred.

## ARTICLE VI.

This Convention, when the same shall have been duly ratified by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of their Senate, and by His Britannic Majesty, and the respective ratifications mutually exchanged, shall be binding and obligatory on the said United States, and on His Majesty; and the ratifications shall be exchanged in six months from this date, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have hereunto affixed the seal of their arms.

Done at London, this twentieth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen.

[L. s.]	ALBERT GALLATIN.
[L. s.]	RICHARD RUSH.
[L. s.]	FREDERICK JOHN ROBINSON.
[L. s.]	HENRY GOULBURN.

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, James Monroe, President of the United States, have caused the said Convention to be made public, to the end that the same, and every clause and article thereof, may be observed and fulfilled, with good faith, by the United States, and the citizens thereof.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my [L. s.] hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this thirtieth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, and of Independence the forty-third.

JAMES MONROE.

By the President.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS,  
Secretary of State.

## FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

## THEMISTOCLES.—No. II.

*Calm Considerations of the Case of General Jackson.*

Those who have attended to the arguments of the gentlemen who have taken part in the debate respecting the Seminole war, in the House of Representatives, must have observed that the orators who support the report of the military committee against general Jackson, do not agree among themselves, as to the precise points of his conduct which they think merit condemnation: For example—

Mr. Clay, in his speech of the 20th ultimo, declared that, with respect to crossing the boundary line of Florida, "he approved entirely of the

"conduct of government, and that Spain had no cause of complaint."

Mr. Clay, in the same speech, condemns the seizure of St. Marks; but when he comes to speak of its restoration to the Spanish authorities, he says, "I think St. Mark's ought, perhaps, to have been also restored; but I say this with doubt and diffidence." This is a strange admission, after the extravagant comparison of the capture of that post with the seizure of the Danish fleet by Great Britain.

Mr. Lowndes is of opinion, that "the House ought to limit its resolutions to the expression of disapprobation as to the seizure of St. Marks and Pensacola. He believed the proceedings in the case of Arbuthnot, not to be justified by the jurisdiction of the United States, but does not consider them as furnishing a case in which, under all its circumstances, it would be expedient that the House should interpose by the expression of its opinion." Mr. Lowndes, of course, approves of the execution of Armbrister.

Mr. Hopkinson justifies general Jackson's crossing the Spanish line, and his occupation of St. Marks. "As to the execution of Arbuthnot and Armbrister, Mr. Hopkinson thinks the general had a strict military power to treat them as if they had been Indians, and of course to exercise the rigors of savage warfare upon them."

Now, here are three orators, reputed amongst the men of greatest abilities in the House of Representatives, who have had many months to prepare themselves, by study and reflection, to pronounce judgment upon the conduct of general Jackson; and yet they do not agree with each other. If, therefore, these orators, left to their cool thoughts, and unembarrassed by perplexing circumstances, differ as to the propriety of this or that action of the general, the wonder is, that general Jackson, in an enemy's country, surrounded by savage foes and treacherous Spaniards, should have acted as correctly as he did—so correctly, that some of the ablest men in Congress do not concur in any two particulars wherein he is to blame.

The speech of Mr. Clay on this subject has been pronounced, by certain eulogists, the best he ever made in Congress. Let me briefly examine it.

He sets out with telling us, that "he had formed no resolution, come under no engagements, and never would form any resolution, or contract any engagement, for systematic opposition to the administration." But where was the necessity for this asseveration? Who had imputed to Mr. Clay "engagements" of this kind? For one, I have never suspected him of them. The declaration looks, however, as if Mr. Clay himself

thought the course he was pursuing rendered him liable to a suspicion of the kind.

Mr. Clay asserts that Arbuthnot and Armbrister were not to be regarded as outlaws and pirates, and attempts to draw a parallel between them, as serving in the Indian armies, and the foreigners serving in the armies of the United States. I admit this parallel, and insist that, by the law of nations, the citizens or subjects of a neutral power, serving in the armies of one belligerent against another, may be treated as outlaws and pirates. If I am asked, what is the remedy in this case? I answer, *retaliation*: Retaliation by the belligerent in whose armies the individuals have served. This principle was recognised by general Washington, during the war of the revolution. The British army, under vague pretexts, executed captain Huddy. General Washington seized captain Asgill, and would have caused him to have been put to death but for the intercession of the queen of France. During our war with G. Britain of 1812, the British commander laid hands upon certain of her native born subjects found fighting in our ranks, and sent them to England for trial and execution, under a charge of treason. What step did our government take? It was the step of *retaliation*. At this moment certain citizens of the United States—a Mr. Conkling, and others—are in the prison of Malaga, and are about to be tried as outlaws and pirates, by the Spanish royal authorities, for having been found fighting on the side of the Spanish Independents, the United States being at peace with Spain. Can the United States protect them under the law of nations? I think not.\* They must be protected by the

\* I must be allowed here to repeat a brief quotation from Vattel. It is so much in point, that the opponents of General Jackson shun it. I should be glad to see Mr. Clay meet this proposition. Vattel says, (b. 3, ch. 4, § 52,) that "He who is injured by foreign subjects does himself justice by his own power, when he meets with the offenders in his territories, or in a free place. And, to avoid all misunderstanding, it is agreed that every private person committing hostilities, without a commission from their sovereign, should meet with the same treatment." Mr. Lowndes appears to condemn the execution of Arbuthnot, on the ground that he did not actually bear arms. Can hostilities, then, only be committed by firing off a musket or a rifle, or by leading into battle? Is the stirring up to war, and the furnishing military supplies, no hostility? It is astonishing how strait-laced several of our current politicians are. Some of the advocates of the report of the military committee against general Jackson have evidently presented their arguments in corsets. And hence it may be inferred, that there are *Dandies* in politics as well as in dress.

Mr. Clay has given, in his speech, a lamentation of Jeremiah upon the death of Hillis Hadjo, or the prophet Francis. But in this instance, as in others, the honorable Speaker has defeated his own purpose. He admits that the putting of such a savage to death is allowable in a case of extreme necessity, when good may result from it. That good did accrue from the death of Francis, is obvious; for the Indians very rapidly dispersed after that event. The reason of this is plain enough: The confidence of the savages in the impostor, led them to believe that a prophet would not die by hanging. When they found that he did die, the charm of his pernicious influence was broken. The Seminoles no doubt thought, like the girl that served up the poisoned mutton to Mahomet, that if Francis was a true prophet, the rope would have no effect on him; and that, if it had any effect, he could be no true prophet. But hear what Vattel says on this head: "When the war is with a savage nation, which observes no rules, and never gives a quarter, [which is the case with the Indians] it may be chased in the persons of any seized or taken, they are among

Spanish Independents, under the law of *retaliation*.

Mr. Clay cites William Pitt, who is supposed to have excited most of the wars against the revolutionary government of France, as a parallel to Arbuthnot and Armbrister. But this is grossly erroneous, even supposing the persons to have been on an equal footing in other respects. Great Britain, with a regular government, was at war with France, when Pitt stirred up the nations against the latter: Great Britain was at peace with the United States when Arbuthnot and Armbrister stirred up the Indians to war against the Americans. Napoleon is also cited as a parallel; as if Napoleon had been the subject of a neutral power, exciting a third party to war against England!

The execution of the duke d'Enghein, is likewise referred to by Mr. Clay, as an "analogous instance." But this parallel is equally divergent. D'Enghein plotted against France—his native country; and he was tried and shot for treason. Will it be pretended that Arbuthnot and Armbrister were in a similar predicament? This speech of Mr. Clay's may be his *best*; but if it is, "*bad* is the best."

Another of Mr. Clay's parallels, (and still more ridiculous!) is the seizure of the Danish fleet at Copenhagen by Great Britain. He thinks this is a fit comparison for the seizure of St. Mark's and Pensacola. And where is the similitude? General Jackson seized the Spanish posts in *fresh pursuit of the enemy*. The British attacked Copenhagen in pursuit of no enemy, and without warning. They demanded the fleet, *as the fleet of Denmark*; General Jackson demanded the Spanish posts, not as Spanish posts, but as the asylums of hostile Indians.

These parallels of Mr. Clay's are not so much to be wondered at, when we read in his speech, that "*it was his lot to fall into conversation with an intelligent ENGLISHMAN on this subject!*"

Mr. Clay alludes to the treaty of fort Jackson as the cause of the Seminole war. But what bearing has that upon the question? That treaty was approved and ratified by the competent authority—by the President and Senate. This is running altogether out of the track of the argument. Equally irrelevant is the reference to the treaty of Ghent. The treaty of fort Jackson, it seems, was concluded "*on the very day, after the protocol was signed, of the first conference between the American and British commissioners, treating of peace at Ghent.*"\* And what is

"the guilty, that by this rigor they may be brought to conform to the laws of humanity." Vattel, b. 3, ch. 8, § 141.

\* In point of relevancy, there is nothing which just now strikes me as worthy of comparison with Mr. Clay's allusion to the conference at Ghent, except the well known and interesting conversation of the *fine ladies* in Goldsmith's "Year of Wakefield."—It follows:

"All that I know of the matter," cried Miss Skegge, "is this,

there remarkable in this? Would Mr. Clay infer that general Jackson ought to have known, at the time, what was doing at Ghent? I presume not. It is likely that a great many other things were going on in different parts of the world in the same hour, which Mr. Clay might have adverted to with equal propriety.

Again. Mr. Clay recurs to generals Philip and Alexander, of Macedon, and general Caesar, of Rome. But these generals fought *against* the rights of their respective countries; whereas general Jackson has fought *for* the rights of *his* country. The cases are directly opposite: On that very account, perhaps, the better parallel for Mr. Clay! Besides, accurately speaking, generals Philip and Alexander were not Greeks: but Macedonians—foreigners, who invaded and subdued Greece. A beautiful parallel, to be sure!

Once more. Commodore Perry, contrary to the rules of service, struck an *American* officer. General Jackson did not strike an American officer, but executed two British outlaws. The cases are altogether dissimilar. General Jackson, therefore, according to Mr. Clay, ought to follow the example of the commodore, and fight a duel!

In his speech, Mr. Clay dwells much upon the danger of bad precedents, and compares them to bad habits. In this he is as unfortunate as he is in his parallels. There are precedents in courts of justice, but none in the proceedings of a nation, except precedents of *right*. By a people like the Americans, every act of their officers is judged of upon its own merits. The tongue and the press, in the United States, are free. General Jackson's conduct has been investigated.—Those who approve it, do not approve it because general Jackson is a great military chief, but because they think he has acted according to law and in defence of his country. Let him take only one step indicative of hostility to our free institutions—let him only squint that way—and he will be instantly abandoned by every intelligent individual in the United States. It is not the man, but the *virtue of his actions*, that I sustain. Let him make but one stride towards subverting public liberty, and I will as boldly give my suffrage for hanging him, as I have given it for hanging the prophet Francis and for the execution of Arbuthnot and Armbrister.

that it may be true, or it may not be true: but this I can assure your ladyship, that the whole route was in amaze; his lordship turned all manner of colors, my lady fell into a swoon; but sir Tomkyu, drawing his sword, swore he was here to the last drop of his blood."

"Well," replied our peeress, "this I can say, that the duchess never told me a syllable of the matter, and I believe her Grace would keep nothing a secret from me. This you may depend upon as fact, that the next morning my lord duke cried out three times to his valet de chambre, Jermigan, Jermigan, Jermigan, bring me my garters."

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

FRANCE.

*Aix-la-Chapelle, Nov. 9.*—Several couriers have arrived from Paris within these six days, bringing accounts of the extraordinary depreciation of the consolidated five per cents. and of the general causes to which the fall is attributed. This subject was immediately taken into consideration by the ministers of the allied courts; and the following documents will explain to you the result of their deliberations—a result which will probably restore the French funds to their former level.

*Protocol of November 3.*

The Duke of Richelieu represented at the conference that the terms for the payment of the 165 millions to be furnished by France, according to the convention of the 9th of October, having been fixed at very near periods, a too rapid exportation of specie has been occasioned, which tends to produce a depreciation in the value of the inscriptions, equally injurious to the interests of all the contracting parties. To remedy the evil the Duke of Richelieu proposes—

1. That the 165 millions which France was to discharge by monthly instalments, from the 6th of January to the 6th of September, be discharged in twelve months, by monthly payments from the 6th of January to the 6th of December, inclusive; the interest for the delay of three months being made good at the rate of 5 per cent.

2. That the 100 millions in inscriptions, for which the different Governments have treated with M. M. Baring and Hope, shall be realized by payments made at the same epoch, with the same bonds of interest in proportion to the delay of three months.

3. That arrangements shall be adopted with the abovementioned houses, in order that the bills drawn upon them, conformably to Article 6, may be paid in assets at the different places which may suit the convenience of the Governments interested, by avoiding the removal of too great a mass of specie.

M. M. the Ministers Plenipotentiary of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, were unanimously of opinion to admit the proposition of the Duke of Richelieu, saving the entering, with respect to article 8, into particular arrangements with Messrs. Baring and Hope, to fix the terms at which the effects in foreign funds should be accepted; and also that, in order to facilitate these arrangements, Mr. Baring should be requested to come to Aix la Chapelle to take measures for that purpose, in concert with the persons charged with this business. Prince Hardenberg besides, presented to the protocol the subjoined observations in reserve, relative to the arrangement which the Prussian government entered into with Mr. Baring for the part of the payments stipulated by the convention of October 9, which accrue to the said government.

(Signed)

METTERNICH,	HARDENBERG,
RICHELIEU,	BERNSTORFF,
CATTLEAGH,	NESSELRODE,
WELLINGTON,	CAPD D'ISTRIA.

If the Prussian government consent to the modifications proposed in the pecuniary stipulations of the convention of the 9th of October, it is under the threefold supposition—

1. That the particular arrangement of the Prussian government with Messrs. Hope & Co and Baring, Brothers, & Co remain untouched, with the

exception of such modifications as the said government may hereafter agree to with these Houses.

2. That the loss which may result from the proposed payment in effects in foreign funds shall be made good to the foreign powers.

3. That the guarantee stipulated for the payment agreed upon, shall be extended to the more remote periods now claimed.

*Aix-la-Chapelle, November 5.*

To Messrs. the Special Commissioners of the courts of Austria, Great Britain, Prussia, and Russia, at Paris.

Gentlemen,

The French government having, for the reasons stated in the protocol of November 3, desired that the payments stipulated in the convention of October 9, be, as well for the 165 millions as for 100 millions to be discharged in inscriptions of rents, regulated by 12 instalments, the last being on the 6th of December, 1819, instead of nine, the last of which was to have been the 6th of September; under the condition, nevertheless, of making good this delay of three months by the payment of interest at the rate of 5 per cent; the four courts have unanimously admitted these propositions, in order to avoid a depreciation in the value of the inscriptions of rents, which would be equally injurious to all the contracting parties. We therefore lose no time in transmitting this resolution, as consigned in the annexed protocol, to you, to take its contents as your information and direction. We have received, in reply to our despatch of the 15th October, the note which you have done us the honor to address to us, under the date of the 8th of October.

The protocol of distribution, signed at Paris, on the 20th of October, 1815, having, in article 15, determined that the recovery of the sums to be paid by France, as well as their final repartition, should be accomplished through your intervention, we cannot do otherwise than assign to you the task of regulating with equity the mode of the repartition of the payments, in respect to the general interest.

With respect to the note which the Sieur Dumont requested you would reproduce to us, we have to inform you that the British government will transmit its directions to him.

(Signed) METTERNICH, BERNSTORFF,  
CASTLEREAGH, NESSELDORF,  
WELLINGTON, CAPO D'ISTRIA,  
HARDENBERG,

SOUTH AMERICA.

By the brig Emeline, Gibson, (arrived at New York) we learn, that on the 9th of Nov. a mail from Valparaiso arrived at Buenos Ayres, bringing advices of the 1st division of the national Chile fleet, consisting of the San Martin, of 64 guns, capt. Wilkinson—Lantaro, of 54 guns, capt. Wooster—corvette Chacabuco, of 20 guns, and brig Puereydon, of 16 guns, bound on a cruise off Cape Horn, as was supposed, for the purpose of intercepting a fleet of transports expected from Spain, and from thence to proceed to the westward, for the purpose of falling in with some of the Spanish ships of war. The night before the Emeline sailed, the Director announced at the Theatre that Talcahuana had surrendered to the Patriots of the West.

The new corvette ships Horatio, capt. Skinner, and Curioso, capt. Delano, had arrived in 62 days from this port. An unfortunate occurrence took place on board the latter vessel on the night of

the 11th Nov. Capt. D. was awoke by the report of a pistol, and informed that John I. Bigelow, master's mate, had fallen in a duel with Mr. Farnarden, midshipman, which had been privately concerted. The deceased received a slug over his right eye, which terminated his life in 64 hours. A jury of inquest was held on the body, who brought in a verdict of manslaughter. On the 16th inst. his remains were interred, in the Church of St. Michaels.

#### MISCELLANY.

*To the Editor of the National Advocate.*

Hyde Park, (L. I.) Jan. 25, 1819.

Sir,—The state of England is, at this time, a matter of great interest to all commercial people, and especially such as have debts or credits in England. The facts are these—on the 6th and 7th of December, the juries at the Old Bailey sessions, in spite of the decided remonstrances of the judges, *refused, in four succeeding instances, to convict for altering forged Bank of England notes.* The bank, upon this, *withdrew the other indictments.* And thus is that famous outlet of paper-money without any protection against forgery.

The parties arraigned and so acquitted had sold large quantities of notes at a low rate; and the country began to be stocked with this sort of paper money. The Courier of the 8th December, exclaims, "thus is the great corporation out of the protection of the law;" which is very true.

My letters to the 11th of December, anticipate a speedy blowing up of the whole thing; and, indeed, it is difficult to see how that is to be avoided: At any rate, here are interesting facts for all those who have pecuniary concerns with England. I, for my part, would not give a York sixpence for a ten pound Bank of England note.

I am, sir, your most obedient,

And most humble servant,

WILLIAM COBBETT.

*From the London Morning Post, Dec. 10, 1818.*

MR. INCELDON.

*To the Editor of the Morning Post.*

Sir,—Unwilling as I always have been to intrude myself on the public, I cannot avoid noticing with feelings of regret, the misrepresentations which I have observed in the newspapers since my return from America, upon the state of music in that country, and I avail myself of the first moment of my return to the metropolis to correct this error. I am proud at the same time publicly to express my very high sense of the liberal and enlightened hospitality with which I have been treated every where in the United States. With regard to musical science in America, I must say that I was agreeably surprised at finding it, in every province, in such high cultivation. At St. Paul's Church, N. Y. I sung in an Oratorio which was, throughout, performed in a style which would have done credit to London. If any additional proof were wanting of their real fondness for music, it is to be found in the facility I every where experienced during my tour, where I was offered the use of halls for my performances free of expense. I could enumerate more instances of generosity than your leisure would permit you to read, besides which it might be thought irrelevant to the subject. I must therefore sum up the expression of my feelings in this declaration, that I have never yet been more agreeably surprised



than by my rapid glance at America; and I shall always hold in affectionate remembrance, the country which welcomed me as a stranger, and patronized me with as much ardor as she could have shown had I been her own son. Once more apologizing for obtruding my opinion on the public, I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient humble servant,

C. B. INCLEDON.

### Manufactures, Commerce, and Navigation.

TRADE TO MARANHAM.

Copy of a letter to the collector of New York.

*United States' Consulate, Maranhão, ?*  
10th Dec. 1818.

Sir,—I take the liberty to address you these lines, and hope you will have the goodness to give to the same as much publicity as possible, for the information of American citizens who may henceforward send their vessels to this port.

Vessels without a regular bill of health are subject, in this port, to a quarantine of eight days, to be prolonged at the pleasure of the health head officer, who is extremely severe in such cases. During the quarantine, said officer visits the vessels as many times as he thinks proper, and for each visit he charges \$10 25 cents, as also, \$1 20 cents per diem for two health clerks on board. There are several other private charges, which generally attend the quarantine. Masters of vessels are hereby requested to provide themselves with a regular bill of health from the respective authorities in the United States.

American vessels have generally been admitted into this port under franquia, but the collector (Administrador d'Alfandega) has lately changed his conduct, and is determined not to allow any more franquias; and has gone so far as to say, that American clearances are produced by the officers of the custom houses without mentioning the packages, marks, and numbers, of the cargoes, on purpose to enable the masters of vessels or their consignees to smuggle. Franquia entry is, of course, denied to all vessels except those in distress, if they prove, with authentic documents, such as custom house clearances, charter parties, bills of lading, &c. that they were bound to another port.

Masters of vessels will save a great many charges, inconveniences, and trouble, by having the marks, packages, and numbers, inserted in the custom house clearances, as also mentioning in the same the ports of destination, and the packages, &c. which are destined to each port; that is, when a vessel is bound to more than one port, otherwise they are subject to be compelled either to leave the port within three days, or to land the whole of their cargoes, and to pay the duties.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOZE DOS SANTOS MONTEIRO,

Consul United States.

### CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS.

#### A GANG OF COUNTERFEITERS CAUGHT.

*From the Lancaster (Ohio) Eagle.*

On Friday last, information was received, by some of the citizens of Lancaster, that a party of counterfeiters was in town, having in their possession a large amount of spurious paper. Arrangements were made to arrest them: but from

the extreme caution which they used, in secreting their money wherever they stopped, and also sending it on, when they moved, by some one of their band, apart from the main company, it was considered imprudent to interfere with them, until they should think themselves in a place of security.

It was understood that they were to pass the night at McIntire's, about 14 miles from Lancaster, on the Chillicothe road, where they were met by some of their associates. They were permitted to pass out of town quietly. About sun set, a party (13 in number) being previously prepared, went in pursuit of them—and, about 9 o'clock at night, took possession of the house. A guard was placed at the doors and windows, to prevent escape and all communication between the several parts of the house. The bar was guarded, that none might enter, while five of the party rushed up stairs, to a small room, where it was suspected the business of the bank was to be transacted.

There were four in the room—three of them surrendered without resistance—the fourth fought most manfully, but was overpowered after having received some bruises in his face and an accidental wound, from a dirk, in his side. They were bound and searched; a small quantity of counterfeit money was found in their pockets; some guarded the prisoners—others were engaged in searching the room.

When the eyes of the guard were, for a moment, turned from the prisoner who had fought so valiantly, he moved to the window, raised it with his hand and shoulder, threw himself out, and made his escape. He was instantly pursued; but the night was dark, and the woods so thick and bushy, as to enable him to elude those who were after him.

On searching the room, two bundles of spurious bills were found, containing \$250 Miami Exporting Co. 50's and 20's—\$1,660 Farmers' Bank of Bucks county, 10's—\$920 Bank of Columbia, 5's—\$145 Marine Bank of Baltimore, 5's.

There were between 250 and 300 dollars counterfeit bills found in the bar, in a pocket book claimed to be the property of the landlord, and about 25 in counterfeit coin, principally dollars, one piece purporting to be a gold coin of the value of 9 dollars.

One of the intinerants, by the name of Seely, and McIntire, the landlord, are now in jail—Hamilton, another of the band, was discharged for want of legal evidence against him.

The one who escaped is a tall man, sandy complexion, grey eyes, and about 30 years of age—one of his eyes is much bruised—he has a wound of a dirk in his side, and was probably injured by his fall from the chamber window. It is supposed that he still lurks in the neighborhood, and may yet be taken and brought to justice.

*From the New York Commercial Advertiser, of 1st February, 1819.*

#### ROBBERY OF THE MAIL.

##### One Thousand Dollars Reward.

⚔ This morning, about three o'clock, between Briagetown and Elizabethtown, the United States' Mail Coach was stopped by three armed men, masked, who, after cutting the traces, opened the coach door and robbed the passengers of their watches, money, &c. They cut open the mail,



and after taking from it such packages as they thought proper, and putting them in a pair of saddle bags, made off. One of the robbers spoke broken English, but whether affected or not, could not be ascertained.

It is impossible, at this time, to ascertain what part of the mail has been taken. All reasonable charges, with the above reward, will be paid for the detection of these villains.

THEODORUS BAILEY, Post Master.

Post Office, New York, Feb. 1, 1819.

*Robbery of the Mail.*—In addition to the above official notice, we have collected the following particulars of this atrocious villainy. At the time and place mentioned above, one of the men ran before the leading horses, and told Wm. Smith, the driver, to stop. The other two immediately presented themselves, armed with pistols, and took the driver from his seat. They then cut the traces, and one of the reins, and went to the coach doors; one presented a pistol, the other a large knife, or dirk, and demanded whatever money the passengers had. There were five gentlemen and a lady, passengers. From one they obtained a pocket book, containing only a small sum; from another a gold watch; and from a third, Mr. Cowan of this city, a small sum in change. They attempted to force this gentleman out of the coach, but he remonstrating with them, they left the passengers and proceeded in search of the mail, which was forward. They cut a hole of about twenty inches in the portmanteau, through which they drew as many packages of letters as filled a pair of saddle bags and a pocket handkerchief. They then made off, having detained the stage about twenty minutes.

We have ascertained that the following packages were missing.

FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

From Philadelphia, one hundred single letters, eight double, two treble, one marked 62½ cents, and one marked 75.

From Baltimore, one bundle in which was enclosed the bill, and of course the number of letters is not yet ascertained.

From New Orleans, sixty one single letters.

For New York State, four bundles are received, and it is supposed that six or eight have been taken by the robbers.

For Connecticut State, one bundle only received, The number missing not known.

From Washington for Boston, about one half missing. The package marked No. 2. enclosing the bill, was received.

For New Hampshire State, several packages missing.

From Washington for District of Maine, one package missing.

For Massachusetts State, only one package received, and that without the bill.

In addition to the above, many entire mails may have been taken, which cannot be ascertained in this city.

We understand that Mr. Cowan had time to secure his watch and money. Another of the passengers tore a hole in the lining of the stage, and secreted a large amount of bills.

A gentleman from Newark informs us, that a large party started from that place early this morning, in pursuit of the villains.

Since the above was in type, we have been obligingly favored with the following official statement:—

*Account of mails missing, and received at New York, 1st February, 1819.*

From Washington to New York State, received bundles Nos. 1, 3, 4, and 5; bill missing, and the number of the bundles not known.

From do. to New Hampshire State, Nos. 1 and 3, with bill, missing; No. 2 received.

From do. to Vermont State, No. 1 missing; and No. 2 bill received.

From do. to Boston, No. 2 bill received; and No. 1 missing.

From do. to Connecticut State, No. 1 received; rest, with bill, missing.

From do. to Maine District, No. 1 received; rest, with bill, missing.

From do. to Massachusetts State, No. 1 received; rest, with bill, missing.

From Philadelphia to New York, No. 3 bill received; rest, with bill, missing.

From Baltimore to do. No. 1 received; rest, with bill, missing.

From New Orleans to do. Nos. 2 and 3, with bill, received; No. 1, containing 61 letters, missing.

From Savannah to do. a mail due, but none received.

From Augusta to do. mail received entire.

From North Carolina to do. do.

From Richmond to do. do.

From Norfolk to do. do.

From Petersburg to do. do.

From Alexandria to do. do.

From Washington City to do. do.

From Chambersburg to do. do.

From Winchester to do. do.

From Fayetteville to do. do.

From Nashville (Ten.) to do. do.

From Georgetown (Col.) to do. do.

## LITERATURE AND THE ARTS.

### BATTLE NEAR PARIS.

*From the New York Republican Chronicle, of the 27th January, 1819.*

Mr. Vanderlyne is now exhibiting a new picture in the Rotunda. It represents a part of the battle between the French and Allied troops fought in the suburbs of the city of Paris, in March, 1814. This interesting battle decided the fate of the French revolution, and banished Bonaparte, the greatest Captain in the world, to the island of Elba, as the battle of Waterloo sent him to St. Helena.

The painting is well executed, and some of the incidents of the battle have such interest as to excite the deepest sympathies of the spectator. The charges of the National Guards, and the Allied troops in the pass of St. Chaumont, has all the bloody cruelty of battle displayed in the fullest light. The representation of the Cossack cavalry charging the French on the opposite height; and particularly the tumbling of the Cossack horses, with their riders, from the sides of the precipices, is painted with such strength as almost to extort from you a shriek of horror.

### THOMSON'S MONUMENT.

The long deferred monument in honor of Thomson, near his native village, is now in a fair way of being speedily erected. The plan adopted is by Mr. William Elliot, Kelso. The obelisk is to be fifty feet in height; it being understood, however, that should the additions which are ex-

pected to the subscriptions admit, the building may be proportionally enlarged, according to the direction of the subscribers. It is to be erected on a fine rising ground, on the lands of Edman Spittal, belonging to Mr. Waldie of Hendersyde, nearly north of the farm house of Ferney Hill, and on the height between that house and Sydenham Gate.

ADAMS.—SIR H. DAVY.—HOBHOUSE.—BYRON.

*Extract of a letter from a gentleman of Boston, written in London, in December, 1818.*

Sir Joseph Banks disclaims ever having believed in the narrative of Adams, and says he repeatedly declared this persuasion to Earl Bathurst and the committee, both at the first examination and subsequently. Moreover he says, Adams' true name is Rose, and that he changed it, because he deserted from on board a British man of war. I mention these facts, because Sir Joseph showed me an able review of the whole matter, in the North American Review, which he praised much.

Sir H. Davy is at Naples to unroll the Herculean MSS. He writes, that he has found the cause of the adhesion of the lamina to be a liquid formed by the subterranean damps; and thinks he has discovered a chemical solvent for it. If any thing can succeed, I suppose it must be his wonderful practical sagacity, which is more remarkable and rare, I think, than even his genius.

I called upon Mr. Hobhouse to-day to get some information that may be useful to E. and picked up from him some literary news, the chief of which is, that lord Byron is about to publish two poems, one on the story of Don Juan, dramatic. Hobhouse himself, up to the elbows in the election for Westminster, of which he feels sufficiently confident, is nevertheless writing a book on the revolutions of Italy between 1794 and 1814; for which he will have fine materials from his connections there. His notes to lord Byron are the best work I have ever seen on Italy, especially in what relates to the recent literature. He is a little, short fellow, extremely lively, eloquent in conversation, and talks very volubly and very well. I should not think him violent, as a party man, from what he says to me to-day, though his notes give us a different opinion.

#### VOYAGES AND DISCOVERIES.

##### TOMBUCTOO.

A young man, by the name of Ritchie, known as the secretary of the British embassy at Paris, a very extraordinary man, full of talent, enthusiasm and knowledge, has been sent to Tripoli, at his own passionate desire, to go to Tombuctoo under the auspices and protection of the Dey, who is now courting the Prince Regent, in hopes of getting Algiers. Here, then, is another chance.

### Congress of the United States.

#### SENATE.

Friday, January 29.

Mr. Lacock, from the committee on pensions, to whom was referred the case of Peter Francisco, of Virginia, made a report against allowing him a pension; which was read.

Mr. Williams, of Tennessee, from the committee on military affairs, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Mark and Conant, of Detroit, which was read.

Mr. Eaton, from the committee appointed to

consider the subject, reported a bill respecting the transportation of persons of color for sale, &c. which was read.

On motion of Mr. Eppes, the committee on finance were discharged from the further consideration of the inquiry into the expediency of so altering the amount of compensations allowed to collectors of the customs as to make them more commensurate with the duties required of them.

Mr. Tichenor obtained leave and introduced, agreeably to notice, a bill for the better organization of the Treasury Department; which was twice read and referred.

The Senate then resumed, in committee of the whole, Mr. Macon in the chair, the consideration of the bill prescribing the mode of commencing, prosecuting, and deciding, controversies between two or more states.

This bill (which is very long, embracing of course numerous provisions relating to the various process and proceedings to be observed in instituting and prosecuting before the Supreme Court controversies between different states) continued to produce much discussion as well on its principle as its details.

In the course of the discussion, Mr. Eppes moved to postpone the bill indefinitely, as the best mode of getting rid of it altogether, which he desired; which motion was decided in the negative, as follows.

YEAS—Messrs. Barbour, Eaton, Eppes, King, Laroock, Macon, Miller, Palmer, Roberts, Sanford, Stokes, Tait, Williams, of Ten. Wilson,—14.

NAYS—Messrs. Burrill, Crittenden, Daggett, Dickerson, Goldsborough, Horsey, Johnson, Leake, Morrow, Noble, Otis, Talbot, Thomas, Van Dyke, Williams, of Mississippi,—16.

The Senate then proceeded in maturing the bill, but before getting through it, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

Monday, February 1.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee of claims, made unfavorable reports on the petitions of Pierre Lacoste, and of Henry Ingraham and others, which were read.

Mr. G. from the same committee, reported a bill for the relief of Rosalie P. Deslande, a bill for the relief of Lewis H. Guerlain, a bill for the relief of Francis B. Longuille, and a bill for the relief of Joseph McNeill; which were severally read.

Mr. Barbour submitted the following resolution, which was read and passed to a second reading.

*Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to employ a skilful artist to ascertain the longitude of 36° 30' north, on the west bank of Tennessee river, and from that point to cause a line to be run and marked due west, along and with the said parallel, to the Mississippi river.*

The engrossed joint resolution, proposing an amendment to the constitution, so far as relates to the election of electors of President and Vice President, &c. was taken up, when

On motion of Mr. Burrill it was recommitted to the committee which reported it, for further consideration.

Mr. Dickerson, subsequently, reported the resolution from the select committee, with an amendment striking out the following words, which had been heretofore added, as an amendment to the original resolution, viz. "and if the legislature of

any state shall fail to provide for the election of representatives as hereby required, Congress shall have power to provide for the same, in the manner prescribed by this article."

The report unfavorable to the petitions of Otho Stephens, of Thomas Arnold, of W. M'Farland and Rachael Sturges, were taken up and severally agreed to.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the commencement, prosecution, and settlement, of controversies between two or more states, (by referring them to the investigation and decision of the Supreme Court.)

Mr. Williams, of Tenn. offered an additional section, providing that the validity of private claims shall not be affected by any decree of the Supreme Court. Mr. W. offered sundry observations in support of this amendment; and was replied to by Mr. Talbot, who denied the right of Congress to make such a provision.

Mr. Williams answered, that this principle had been already acted on by other states, in similar controversies, viz. Pennsylvania and Virginia, and Virginia and Tennessee, and that it was consistent with justice and equity.

Mr. Crittenden followed, with arguments against the power of Congress to adopt this provision; as it was a question for judicial decision, or for legislative provisions of the contending states.

Mr. Williams replied, and attempted to show that it was both competent and expedient for Congress to make the provision he had proposed.

Mr. Talbot again spoke against the amendment, on the ground of the incompetency of Congress to adopt such a provision; and as the two states could more properly and easily adjust private claims.

Mr. Eaton spoke at some length in support of the motion of his colleague; and adduced arguments to prove the constitutionality and expediency of the provision.

The question was then taken on Mr. Williams's amendment, and lost, 10 only rising in the affirmative.

Mr. Williams, of Tennessee, then moved an amendment, similar to the preceding in principle, but varying as to the time it was to take effect.

This amendment, Mr. W. said, he hoped would not be objected to by the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. Crittenden said, this amendment was of the same import as the one just negatived. He therefore hoped the Senate would reject it, as they had done the former.

Mr. Williams spoke in support of his motion, and was replied to by Mr. Talbot.

The motion was lost, 9 only voting in the affirmative.

Sundry amendments were made to the bill, when

Mr. Eppes moved so to amend the bill as to confine its operation to the controversy between the states of Kentucky and Tennessee; and offered sundry reasons in support of his motion.

Mr. Burrill opposed the motion, on the ground that if Congress had the right to legislate in this case, they had in all other similar cases; and that it was better to legislate for all cases at this time, than to legislate in detail, as cases may arise. The latter he deemed both unconstitutional and inexpedient.

Mr. Eppes replied, that the gentleman's argu-

ments, if they proved any thing, proved too much; as he himself had consented to limit the exercise of the general power given to Congress, to the particular case of disputed boundaries.

Mr. Eppes' motion was then carried, 18 to 16.

Mr. Williams, of Tenn. moved to postpone the bill to the 5th of March next, (reject it) which motion was agreed to by the following vote, and the bill rejected.

For postponement—Messrs. Barbour, Eaton, Eppes, Forsyth, Goldsborough, King, Macon, Mellen, Morrill, Palmer, Roberts, Ruggles, Sanford, Stokes, Tait, Thomas, Tichenor, Van Dyke, Williams, of Ten. Wilson—20.

Against postponement—Messrs. Burrill, Crittenden, Daggett, Dickerson, Edwards, Fromentin, Horsey, Hunter, Johnson, Lacock, Lenke, Morrow, Noble, Otis, Talbot, Taylor, Williams, of Miss.—17.

The report of the committee of claims, in favor of the petition of Eli Hart, was taken up and agreed to; and the committee instructed to report a bill accordingly.

The bill to authorize Hannah Ring to receive the revolutionary pension of her husband, who is insane; and to authorize Luther Frink to receive the pension of John Frink, who is also insane, was received from the House of Representatives, twice read by general consent, and

On motion of Mr. Daggett, it was referred to the committee of pensions, with instructions to report a general bill, providing for similar cases.

The Senate then took up for consideration the report made by the committee of finance on the 25th ult. against any legal provisions to prohibit the exportation of American coins, and agreed thereto.

Tuesday, February 2.

Mr. Roberts, from the committee of claims, reported a bill for the relief of Eli Hart.

Agreeably to notice given yesterday, Mr. Mellen, having obtained leave, introduced a bill to authorize a subscription for 500 copies of the 11th and 12th volumes of state papers printed by T. B. Wait and Sons.

Mr. Burrill, from the committee on the judiciary, reported a bill for the relief of Nathan G. Birding and Daniel Booth.

These bills were severally read and passed to a second reading.

The engrossed bill more effectually to provide for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, was read the third time.

The report of the committee of claims against the petition of Mark and Conant, was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the committee of claims, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Benjamin Putney, which was read.

Mr. G. from the same committee, reported a bill for the relief of John Roderigues, which was read.

Mr. G. presented the memorial of the Columbian Institute, praying the use of a piece of the public reservation of ground in the City of Washington, whereon to construct buildings and lay off a Botanic garden, which was read and referred.

The Senate then took up, in committee of the whole, Mr. Barbour in the chair, and spent some time in the consideration of the bill for adjusting claims to lands, and establishing land offices in the district east of the island of Orleans. Before getting through the bill, it was laid over until to-morrow.

The bill to continue in force the act to regulate the currency of certain foreign coins, was taken

up; and Mr. Eppes, having explained the motives for certain provisions of the bill (which limits the currency of foreign gold coins to the first of November next, and continuing the currency of certain foreign silver coins for two years longer;) it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill from the other house, authorizing the election of a delegate for Michigan territory, was ordered to a third reading, with one or two verbal amendments.

The bill from the other house, to authorize the Rockville and Washington Turnpike Company to extend their road to the boundary of the city, was taken up and ordered to a third reading; and

The bill for the relief of James H. Clark was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to provide for sick and disabled seamen (constituting a general fund out of the moneys which have been or shall be collected, under the several acts on this subject; and forming a board of commissioners of the Secretaries of the Treasury, War, and Navy Departments, for its administration, &c.)

The bill provides, that from the 30th of September next, there shall be required of each seaman employed in the registered vessels of the United States, the monthly contribution of — cents per month, for the general fund.

Mr. Sandford moved to fill this blank with *forty*—and supported his motion on the general ground of the inadequacy of the present contribution of *twenty* cents from each seaman, to provide a sufficient fund for their relief when sick or disabled on shore; and that, as the principle of creating the fund, in this manner, had been sanctioned by long usage, it was proper to make it adequate to its object, &c.

Mr. Burrill approved the object, but did not think it right that the whole fund for this purpose should be raised by a tax on the seamen themselves; that a tax of *forty* cents a month was a very heavy poll tax; and he thought the public treasury ought to contribute something towards this fund, &c.

Mr. King did not view this contribution in the light of an absolute poll tax—the seaman would receive a part of it in increased wages from his owner, the owner from his employer, &c. and the payment of the tax would thus, in some measure, spread itself through the community, and not fall wholly on the seaman, although for his benefit.

Mr. Tait referred to the letter of the Secretary of the Treasury, stating the inadequacy of the present tax on the seamen to provide for their relief, and argued that, setting aside the consideration that it was for their own benefit, the increase was not unreasonable, when the depreciation of money, in twenty years, during which the contribution had remained unchanged, was taken into view; that, in all probability, the subject would not be touched again for twenty years to come, &c.

The motion to fill the blank with *forty* cents was agreed to; and the other provisions of the bill having been gone through, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Wednesday, February 27.

Mr. Ruggles, from the committee of claims, reported a bill for the relief of Joseph Daggett and Antonio Baugard, which was read.

Mr. Goldsborough, from the same committee, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Christopher Fowler.

The reports of the committee of claims unfavorable to the petition of Henry Ingraham, and others, and Benjamin Putney, were severally taken up and agreed to.

The resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, as respects the mode of electing electors of President, &c. was taken up; the amendment reported by the select committee agreed to, and the resolution ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

The engrossed bill providing for the relief of sick and disabled seamen was read a third time when,

On motion of Mr. Daggett, the vote which ordered the bill to a third reading was reconsidered, and the bill thus returned to the committee of the whole.

The engrossed bill to continue in force the act regulating the currency of certain foreign coins, and the engrossed bill for the relief of James H. Clark, were severally read the third time, passed, and sent to the other House for concurrence.

The bills from the other House, authorizing the election of a delegate from the territory of Michigan, and authorizing the Washington and Rockville Turnpike Company to extend their road to the City line, were severally read the third time, passed, (the former with a verbal amendment) and returned to the House of Representatives.

The bill for the relief of Joseph Forrest was taken up, and, after some discussion of the merits of the claim, the question was put on ordering the bill to be engrossed for a third reading, and decided in the *negative*—14 to 13.

So the bill was rejected.

The bill for adjusting claims to land and establishing land offices in the districts east of the Island of Orleans, was again taken up as in committee of the whole, and, after undergoing some discussion and amendment, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

A message in writing was received from the President of the United States, by the hands of Mr. J. J. Monroe, his private Secretary, transmitting, in compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 13th ult. a statement from the Secretary of the Treasury, showing the measures which have been taken to collect the balances stated to be due from the several supervisors and collectors of the old direct tax of two millions, the balance due from the officers of the old internal revenue, a list of the persons who have been interested in its collection, the sums by them collected, the time when, &c. which message and report were read.

Mr. Morrow, from the committee on the public lands, to whom the subject was referred, reported a bill to fix the salaries of the registers and receivers of public moneys of the public land offices, which was read. [The bill is reported in blank.]

The bill, from the other House, to regulate passenger ships and vessels, was taken up, together with sundry amendments reported thereto by the select committee, which were agreed to by the Senate, and the bill ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Eppes, from the committee of finance, reported a bill making appropriations to carry into effect treaties concluded with certain Indian tribes; and the bill was read.

Mr. E. from the same committee, communicated



a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, showing the gross amount of duties upon merchandise and tonnage which accrued during the two first quarters of the years 1817 and 1818; which was read.

The bill authorizing a subscription to the 11th and 12th volumes of Wait's State Papers, was ordered to be engrossed.

*Thursday, February 4.*

Mr. Roberts, from the committee of claims, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Augustus Sacket.

Mr. Ruggles, from the same committee, made an unfavorable report on the petition of John Anderson, of Michigan territory, praying indemnification for property destroyed by fire whilst in possession of the troops of the United States during the late war.

The bill regulating the pay of invalid pensioners was reported by Mr. Van Dyke, from the committee on pensions, with an amendment.

The report of the committee of claims unfavorable to the petition of Pierre Lacoste, of Louisiana, was taken up; and, after being opposed by Mr. Fromentin, at some length, it was postponed for two weeks, to await further information on the subject of the claim.

The following message was received from the President of the United States, by the hands of Mr. J. J. Monroe, his private secretary, and read.

*To the Senate of the United States.*

I communicate to Congress copies of applications received from the minister of Great Britain, in behalf of certain British subjects, who have suffered in their property by proceedings to which the United States, by their military and judicial officers, have been parties. These injuries have been sustained under circumstances which appear to recommend strongly to the attention of Congress the claim to indemnity for the losses occasioned by them, which the legislative authority is alone competent to provide.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, Feb. 3.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to provide for sick and disabled seamen; when, on motion of Mr. Sanford, it was amended by making the monthly contribution levied on each seaman for this fund, *thirty-five* instead of forty cents, as first agreed on; and, thus amended, the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The Senate next took up the bill authorizing a subscription for 500 copies of the 11th and 12th volumes of Wait's edition of state papers; and, after being amended by providing the manner of their distribution,

Mr. Roberts moved to postpone the bill to a day beyond the session, (to reject it;) which motion was opposed by Messrs. Otis and Mellen, and was finally negatived—ayes 10; and

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

The engrossed joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution, so far as to provide an uniform mode (by districts) of electing electors of President and Vice President of the United States, and Representatives to Congress, was read the third time.

Mr. Daggett stated briefly the reasons which should induce him to vote, as he had always voted, against the resolution, although now differently instructed on the subject by the legislature of Connecticut.

Mr. Forsyth moved that the resolution be re-committed, with instructions to strike out that part which prescribed the mode of electing Representatives to Congress, considering the two subjects entirely distinct, and, opposed as he was to the whole proposition, yet, divested of this feature, it would be to him less objectionable than with it.

This motion brought on some discussion not only of the proposed amendment, but of the general merits of the resolution; in which Mr. Forsyth opposed it at some length, and Messrs. Dickerson, Macon, and King supported it.

Mr. Forsyth's motion was negatived without a division; and

The question was then taken on the passage of the resolution, and decided in the affirmative by the following vote, and it was sent to the other House for concurrence.

YEAS—Messrs. Burrill, Crittenden, Dickerson, Eaton, Edwards, Fromentin, Goldsborough, Hunter, Johnson, King, Laroek, Macon, Mellen, Morrill, Morrow, Noble, Otis, Palmer, Sanford, Stokes, Storer, Talbot, Thomas, Tichenor, Van Dyke, Williams of Miss. Williams of Tenn. Wilson—22.

NAYS—Messrs. Barbour, Daggett, Eppes, Forsyth, Horsey, Lenke, Roberts, Ruggles, Tait, Taylor—10.

The engrossed bills for adjusting claims to lands, and for establishing land offices in the district east of the island of Orleans, was read the third time, passed, and sent to the other House for concurrence; and

The bill, from the other House, to regulate passenger ships and vessels, was read the third time, as amended by the Senate, passed and returned for concurrence in the amendments.

On motion of Mr. Talbot, it was

*Resolved*, That the committee on the post office be instructed to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the Postmaster General to employ an armed guard for the protection of the mails of the United States, on such mail routes as he may deem necessary.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill, from the other House, to incorporate the Provident Association of Clerks in the civil departments of the government in the District of Columbia; and, after making sundry amendments thereto, it was ordered to be read a third time, as amended.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Friday, January 29.*

Mr. Smith, of Md. from the committee of ways and means, to whom were committed the amendments of the Senate to the bill making appropriations for the support of the navy for the current year, reported their agreement thereto; and the said amendments subsequently passed through a committee of the whole, and were concurred in by the house.

Mr. Hopkinson, from the committee on the judiciary, to which was referred the bill from the Senate, to extend the jurisdiction of the circuit courts to cases arising under the law relating to patents, reported it without amendment; and the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Robertson, from the committee on private land claims, made a report on the petition of the heirs of Wm. Scott, of Mississippi, accompanied by a bill for their relief; which was twice read and committed.

Mr. Johnson, of Ky. submitted the following resolutions; which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

1. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to establish a

military academy on the western waters, on the principle of the academy at West Point.

2. *Resolved*, That it is expedient to establish a school of practice for the artillery, in the vicinity of the city of Washington.

On motion of Mr. Baldwin, the committee on the judiciary were instructed to inquire into the expediency of making provision for the more convenient execution of the laws within the territory of Michigan.

Mr. Lowndes laid on the table the following proposition, as an amendment to the rules and orders of the House:

"It shall be the duty of the committee of ways and means, in preparing bills of appropriations, not to include appropriations for carrying into effect treaties made by the United States, in a bill containing appropriations intended for other objects; and, where an appropriation bill shall be referred to that committee for their consideration, containing appropriations for carrying a treaty into effect, and also appropriations for other objects, it shall be the duty of the committee to propose such amendments as shall prevent appropriations for carrying a treaty into effect from being included in the same bill which contains appropriations for other objects."

The engrossed bill to extend to Cadets disabled in the service the provisions of the act of the 24th of April, 1816, to increase the pensions of invalids in certain cases, was read the third time, and, on the question "Shall the bill pass?" it was decided in the negative—so the bill was rejected.

The Speaker laid before the House a report of the Secretary of State, exhibiting the names and respective salaries of the clerks employed in that department.

*Saturday, January 30.*

Amongst the petitions this morning presented was one by Mr. Smith, of Maryland, from James Wilkinson, late a major general in the service of the United States, praying to be indemnified against the effects of a judgment for 2,500 dollars, recovered against him by General John Adair, in consequence of his having arrested the said Adair in the city of New Orleans, in the year 1806, on a charge of his being concerned in the alleged conspiracy of Aaron Burr; which petition was read, and referred to the committee on military affairs.

Also a petition presented by Mr. Scott, from sundry inhabitants of the Arkansas country, praying a separate territorial government, and that commissioners may be appointed to fix a site for the seat thereof.

Mr. Newton, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, reported a bill to increase the duties on certain manufactured articles (shovels, spades, plain flint glass, copperas, shot, and oil cloths,) imported into the United States; which was twice read and committed.

The House took up and proceeded to consider the proposition submitted yesterday by Mr. Lowndes, to amend the rules and orders of the House; which, being again read, was agreed to.

The bill from the Senate, to extend the jurisdiction of the circuit courts of the United States, to cases arising under the law relating to patents, was read the third time, passed, and returned to the Senate.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by the hands of Mr. J. J. Monroe, his private Secretary, transmitting, in com-

pliance with the resolution of the House of the 14th instant, a report from the Secretary of State, concerning the applications which have been made by any of the independent governments of South America to have a Minister or Consul General accredited by the government of the United States; with the answers of the government to the applications addressed to it. The papers communicated by the Secretary of State, embrace, besides his own report, which is long, sundry letters from Don Luis de Clementi and Mr. De Forest, to the Secretary of State, with his answers; letters of credence from the Director of Buenos Ayres, a commission from Mr. Clementi to Sir Gregor McGregor, &c. making in all a pretty large volume of manuscript.

The message and documents were read and referred to the committee on foreign relations.

A message was received from the President by the hands of Mr. J. J. Monroe, communicating, in compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives, of the 18th instant, requesting of him "any information, not already communicated, whether Amelia Island, St. Marks, and Pensacola, yet remain in the possession of the United States; and, if so, by what laws the inhabitants thereof are governed; whether articles imported therein from foreign countries, are subject to any and what duties, and by what laws; and whether the said duties are collected, and how; whether vessels arriving in the United States from Pensacola and Amelia Island, and in Pensacola and Amelia Island from the United States, respectively, are considered and treated as vessels from foreign countries," reports from the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of War, affording all the information requested by the House.

The message and documents were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. Harrison offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the judiciary committee inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the punishment of crimes committed by persons employed in the armies of the United States, without the limits thereof, and which are not provided for by existing laws.

Mr. H. observed, in explanation of his motion, that, during the discussion which had for some days occupied the house, the question had occurred to him, whether there was any provision in our laws for the punishment of crimes committed by men in the army beyond the limits of the United States, and which were not provided for by the military code; in other words, whether the jurisdiction of our civil courts extended to crimes committed in that situation. He had himself no doubt of the right of jurisdiction being in the nation over its own citizens, employed in the army, in any country where, by the laws of nations, our army had a right to go; but he had understood that the courts of the United States had declined taking cognizance of offences committed anywhere, unless jurisdiction had been expressly given by a statute. If this was correct, crimes of the highest class might be committed, by individuals of our army, in Florida, for which there was no legal punishment. The articles of war, Mr. H. observed, provided for the punishment of no crimes, but those of a military character. They did not provide for the case of murder. An interior killing his superior, might indeed be punished, and punished with death, under the article

which prohibits the striking superiors; but there was no adequate punishment for an officer who should murder a soldier, or an officer his inferior. Within the limits of the United States all offences of this description were punished by the civil courts of the states. If the view he had taken of the subject was correct, Mr. H. said, the propriety of passing a law as speedily as possible must be apparent. He therefore moved the resolution which he had submitted.

The resolution was agreed to; and the House adjourned.

Monday, February 1.

Mr. Rhea, in pursuance of instructions from the House, reported, from the committee of pensions and revolutionary claims, a bill for the relief of Benjamin Simmons, (a case which the committee heretofore reported against, but which was reversed by the House, and is a claim under an alleged contract, for services rendered as wagon master in the revolutionary war.)

The bill having been read, Mr. Rhea moved that the bill be rejected, on the ground that the claim was in itself unjust, and, if just, the amount allowed was more than the claim justified.

This motion was opposed by Mr. Hubbard; and, after some discussion on the merits of the claim,

The motion to reject it was negatived, and the bill was again read and committed.

Mr. P. P. Barbour then made an attempt to have the claim of — Porter committed to the same committee, as being an analogous case; but that claim having been already definitively decided by the House, in concurring with the committee who reported against it, the motion of Mr. B. was decided to be not in order.

Mr. Spencer presented for consideration the following resolution:

*Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall cause all the public deposits in the bank of the United States and its several offices of discount and deposit, to be withdrawn on the first day of July next; that after the said day, the bills or notes of the said corporation shall no longer be receivable in any payments to the United States; and the Attorney General of the United States shall on that day, or as soon thereafter as may be, cause a *scire facias* to be sued out in conformity to the provisions of the "Act to incorporate the subscribers to the Bank of the United States," calling upon the said corporation to show cause why its charter should not be declared forfeited; unless the said corporation shall, by a legal act to be delivered to, and approved by, the Attorney General, and to be by him transmitted to Congress at the next session thereof, declare its assent to the following propositions, on or before the said first day of July next, viz:*

1. That Congress may by law provide such means as may be necessary to enforce the first fundamental article of the said charter respecting the rights of voting for directors, and particularly to provide that transfers of stock shall always be made to the real owners thereof, or to some person or persons in trust for the owners, who shall always be named in such transfer; that stock shall always be deemed to belong to the person or persons in whose name it may stand, or for whose use it may be declared in the certificate to be held, and that no evidence whatever shall be re-

ceived in any court to contradict or explain the certificates of ownership.

2. That Congress may provide for the reduction of the capital stock of the bank, in a just and equal proportion, by the stockholders thereof, when convened in a general meeting.

3. That the power of removing any director for misconduct, may be vested in the President of the United States.

4. That the bank may purchase not exceeding five millions of dollars of the funded debt of the United States, and may hold the same without being subject to redemption unless consented to by it, until the time or times specified in the certificates thereof.

5. That no by-law of the corporation shall exclude the directors appointed by the government from a full knowledge of all the concerns of the bank, and of the accounts of every person dealing with it; and that the assent of at least one public director shall be necessary to allow any discount, and to render valid every act of the board of directors.

6. That the provision in the second fundamental article, prohibiting any director from holding his office more than three years out of four in succession, may be modified or repealed by Congress.

7. No discount shall, in any case, be made by the bank at Philadelphia, or by any office, without the consent of at least four directors of the bank, or of the office, as the case may be.

8. Congress may authorize the bank to deal and trade in other things than those enumerated in the ninth fundamental article, so as to receive pledges of its own stock, and of the funded debt of the United States, in security for loans, and to sell such pledges on a forfeiture thereof.

9. That persons holding stock, upon which any instalment shall have been paid by the proceeds of notes discounted, shall be compelled gradually, and as soon as circumstances will admit, to pay the full amount of such instalment in coin, or in coin and funded debt, according to the provisions of the charter; and no dividend of profits shall be allowed to such stock, until the said payment is completed.

10. That the Secretary of the Treasury shall be permitted at any time, either in person, or by agent to be appointed by him, to inspect all the books, papers, correspondence, minutes, and proceedings of the board of directors of the bank, and of all its offices, and of all their officers.

11. That Congress may extend the time for the payment of the whole, or any part of the sum of 1,500,000 dollars, required to be paid by the 20th section of the charter.

12. That a *scire facias* may be issued out of any circuit court in the United States, in the case stated in the charter; and whenever it shall be issued out of any other court than the circuit court of Pennsylvania, sworn copies of the books and papers of the bank shall be received as evidence, instead of the originals.

The foregoing provisions, or any of them, may at any time be enacted into a law or laws, by Congress, and shall, therefore, become a part of the charter of the bank.

The resolution having been read, and the question stated whether the House would now consider it—

Mr. Spencer, with the view of removing any objection which might be felt to the considera-



tion of the motion, stated that it was not now his wish to go into a discussion of it, but only to be enabled to have it referred to the committee of the whole House, to which had been committed the report concerning the management of the bank.

Mr. Tyler asked leave to make one remark. He hoped the House would agree to consider the resolution, that it might take the course suggested by the mover, and have a full and fair discussion. He wished that every member might have an opportunity of exhibiting his views, and that the House might make its final decision with all the lights to be derived from deliberate discussion and mature reflection; but he would here say, that, whenever the question on the adoption of this motion should be presented to him, he should be obliged to vote for its rejection, under the hope that the House would, in preference, direct a *scire facias* to be forthwith issued.

The House having agreed to consider the resolution,

Mr. Spencer moved that it be committed to the committee of the whole House on the state of the Union, to which was referred the report of the committee appointed to investigate the management of the bank of the United States.

Mr. Johnson, of Virginia, hoped the resolution would not be committed, but that it would be laid on the table. He hoped the question would be fully met; and it had been his intention, if no other member should do so, to move to instruct the committee on the judiciary to report a bill to repeal the charter of the bank. The patient Mr. J. said, was too far gone to be recovered; expedients were useless, as dissolution was inevitable, and it was better to meet the question at once. He, therefore, moved to lay this resolution on the table.

Mr. Spencer was as willing as any one to meet the question fully, and to give the subject a fair and ample discussion; and he thought the course he proposed to give the resolution, was the best way to afford it a full consideration, because the report was already committed, and, by referring his resolution to the same committee, the whole subject would be presented for discussion, &c. He would, however, give way to the course moved by Mr. Johnson; and consent to laying the resolution for the present on the table. Mr. S. then withdrew his motion to commit the resolution, and,

It was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Marr, it was

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into the expediency of amending an act passed the 4th day of April, 1818, entitled "An act supplementary to an act to authorize the state of Tennessee to issue grants and perfect titles to certain lands therein described, and to settle the claims to the vacant and unappropriated lands within the same," passed the 18th of April, 1806; with leave to report by bill or otherwise,

On motion, the committee on pensions and revolutionary claims was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Wm. Jackson, and

On motion of Mr. Rich, the committee of claims was discharged from the petition of Oliver Herrick.

*Tuesday, February 2.*

Mr. Newton, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, reported a bill for the relief of

Robert Kidd; and also a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to sell a lot of ground at Bermuda Hundred, in Virginia.

Mr. McCoy, from the committee of claims, made a report on the petition of John McCasland, accompanied by a bill for his relief.

These bills were severally twice read and committed.

Mr. H. Nelson, from the judiciary committee, to whom had been referred the bill further to extend the judicial system of the United States, reported it without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Livermore, it was ordered that eleven hundred copies of the reports of Theodore Bland and J. R. Poinsett, on the subject of South America, be printed, for the use of the House, and that forty copies thereof be presented to Mr. Bland and Mr. Poinsett, respectively.

### EDITOR'S CABINET.

*Robbers and Pirates.*—The close of the wars of the French Revolution has thrown loose upon the world a multitude of licentious individuals. Many of these have engaged in piracy, and are at this moment roving the seas in search of spoil. They merit, and no doubt will soon receive, chastisement. On the land, too, villains, the outcasts of Europe, or generated in the corruptions of our populous cities, are increasing in boldness, in the perpetration of robberies and murders. Our penitentiary system seems to have little terror for these victims of vice. What, then, is to be done? *Cut them off.* Nothing less, we fear, will answer. Let punishment be *sharp, sure, and swift.* The robbery of the United States' mail, an account of which will be found in this week's Register, is an offence, although not attended with loss of life, meriting vengeance from the heavy hand of justice. Two of the robbers, Maurice and Bertrand, have been caught. Some of the letters, opened and rifled, have been found not a great way from the place where the mail was stopped by these desperadoes. In addition to the \$1,000 offered by the postmaster of New York, 500 dollars reward are promised for ascertaining and convicting either of the accomplices, and 200 dollars for information leading to their discovery.

*History of Congress.*—The debate continues in the House of Representatives on the topic of the Seminole war. It would appear to be endless. But General Jackson gains ground daily, even in the opinion of the members of the House. The people have always been with him.—Notwithstanding the continuance of the discussion, business of different kinds progresses. There is an *under current*, not conspicuous; but it runs along; and more has been done in the maturing of bills and passing acts than is generally understood. We shall be glad when the *Seminole Campaign* (in Congress) shall have been terminated, and all the speeches published, in order that we may give our readers a summary of all the arguments.